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Three killed in TA cafe bombing

By RAINIE MARCUS and Jerusalem Post Staff

Security forces yesterday identified the suicide bomber who detonated a three-kilo TNT bomb packed with nails and pieces of metal in Tel Aviv on Friday as Moussa Ranimat, 28, of Kafr Yasur near Hebron. Ranimat's orange identity card was found on the terrace of the wrecked Apropro cafe.

A closure was imposed on the territories immediately following the attack, and the investigation of the case was transferred from the Tel Aviv police to the General Security Service. The home of Ranimat, a member of Hamas for the past two years, was sealed.

Hamas claimed responsibility for the blast, in a phone call to Channel

GSS chief Ami Ayalon met Friday night with Palestinian Authority security heads and demanded they immediately rearrest some 150 security prisoners released by the PA over the past two weeks.

Three women were killed in the explosion on the cafe terrace. Forty-eight people were wounded, most of them suffering moderate to light wounds; 19 victims were still hospitalized yesterday.

Anat Winter-Rosen, 32, a Herzliya lawyer and the mother of Shani, a six-month-old girl who was also wounded in the blast, died from her wounds at Ichilov Hospital. Dr. Michal Avrahami, 32, of Tel Aviv, a Wolfson Hospital radiologist, died shortly after being taken to hospital. She was pregnant with her first child and her husband and mother-in-law were recovering at Ichilov from moderate wounds. The third victim was Yael Gilad, 32, of Neveh Monosson.

Avrahami is to be buried this afternoon at 2 at Tel Aviv's Kiryat Shaul Cemetery. Rosen is to be buried at 3 at Kfar Nahman Cemetery, near Ra'anana. The time of Gilad's funeral has not yet been announced.

Investigators said Ranimat had worked in two Rishon LeZion restaurants. The owners of one, Formaggio, were arrested and questioned. Ranimat had been investigated recently for suspected membership in Hamas.

The bag he carried containing the bomb was apparently given to him on the way to the packed Apropro cafe, sources said; he did not bring it from his village. Usually suicide bombers chosen by terror organizations are single, and Ranimat, the father of four, did not fit the profile. He had permit to work in Israel.

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, who arrived at the scene of the blast at the busy



Police and Hevra Kadisha workers sift through the terrace of Tel Aviv's Apropro cafe after Friday's suicide bombing.

PM: This is not peace

By MICHAL YUDELMAN and JON IMMANUEL

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will convene a meeting of the inner cabinet today to discuss the security situation following Friday's terrorist attack in Tel Aviv. The meeting comes following Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's meeting with top security brass yesterday.

Netanyahu, who fingered the Palestinian Authority as being responsible for the attack, is demanding that it rearrest 150 leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad in the territories who have recently been released.

In a terse telephone conversation with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, Netanyahu demanded that he act immediately to return the terrorist leaders to prison. Arafat had initiated the call, to express his condolences.

PA officials condemned the attack, but blamed Netanyahu for creating the conditions which encouraged it. They also rejected charges that Arafat had given Hamas a "green light."

"The cabinet denounces the Tel Aviv attack, but at the same time it denounces the acts of destroying the peace process that creates an atmosphere which encourages violence and violent people on both sides," said Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath.

An angry Netanyahu told reporters after the attack that security services warned a few days ago that terrorist organizations had received the go-ahead from the PA to carry out attacks against Israel.

"The Palestinian Authority will have to change its ways, and very soon. It will have to understand we will not agree to proceed in this way; the political process will not continue at the same time as terrorist attacks. We are not prepared to call this peace. This is not peace, in which our women and children get bombed," he said.

The prime minister said the government will decide how to act against the terrorists and how to proceed with the peace process after holding consultations with defense officials. He accused Arafat of taking no action to stop the ter-

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intersection of Ben-Gurion and Adam Hachohen streets, blasted Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat for giving the green light to terror organizations and for failing to prevent attacks.

"He does not have to give the go-ahead to terror organizations," said Kahalani, who lives near the Apropro restaurant but was not at home at the time of the blast. "It is sufficient that he just winks at them."

He was insistent that the Har Homa building project continue. "We will not stop building in Jerusalem, nor anywhere else and will certainly not surrender to terrorists and their threats. It is known

that [the Palestinians] want to drive us into the sea and out of the country. We will not be driven into the sea."

A warning that an attack would take place in Tel Aviv had been received the previous evening, but no specific details were given, he added.

The bomb was detonated at 1:45 p.m., just after the terrorist sat at a table on the cafe's terrace. Because the explosion occurred outside, there were probably far fewer casualties than if Ranimat had been able to find an inside table, police said.

The blast, which was heard

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Yael Gilad (Barak Wolfson/Courtesy of 'Ma'ariv')



Anat Winter-Rosen (Barak Wolfson/Courtesy of 'Ma'ariv')



Michal Avrahami (Koko/Courtesy of 'Ma'ariv')

Two days of clashes in Hebron leave over 100 wounded

By JON IMMANUEL and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Hundreds of Palestinians rushed the area between Palestinian and Israeli-controlled Hebron in three separate onslaughts yesterday and Friday, leaving dozens of Palestinians and several Israelis wounded.

But both sides kept to their respective zones, avoiding any direct contact that might have escalated the riots.

Hebron's Alya Hospital reported treating 92 people wounded in yesterday's clashes, including 10 who were in serious condition, suffering from bullet wounds.

The IDF said soldiers fired some five bullets when "their lives were in

danger." Twelve soldiers and border policemen and an Israeli boy were lightly wounded in the two days of clashes, the army said.

The IDF imposed a complete closure on the territories on Friday afternoon. In addition, it imposed a curfew on H2 - the area of Hebron still under Israeli control - and ordered Palestinians in H1 - the area under Palestinian control - and H2 to remain in their homes.

Jewish residents in Hebron were free to travel within the community, the IDF Spokesman said last night. The Machpelah Cave was open yesterday for prayers but due to the curfew imposed on the Palestinian sector, only Waqf leaders were permitted to pray there.

There were also clashes in the Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem on Friday evening. An Israeli girl was injured by glass splinters when the car she was in was hit by a stone near Ramallah. A policeman was hurt by a stone by El Arroub camp near Hebron.

Clashes in Hebron started Friday morning, when a large crowd surged towards Beit Hadassah, throwing hundreds of stones, Hebron Jewish community spokesman Noam Amon said.

According to Amon, during the first hours, IDF troops didn't intervene.

He said the Palestinian policemen present in the crowd of rioters did nothing to stop them.

When IDF soldiers began to push the rioters back, they were hit with rocks and firebombs. Settlers claimed that IDF troops fired tear gas and rubber bullets towards the rioters, but Palestinians threw rocks and tear gas canisters back towards the soldiers.

Later in the afternoon, OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan and OC Judea and Samaria Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ophir visited the area.

According to the IDF Spokesman, Dayan and other high ranking officers met with Palestinians including Haj Ismail Jabr, the West Bank police commander, on Friday night, demanding that the Palestinian Police prevent disturbances in the areas under their control. Dayan would not comment yesterday.

The Friday clashes stopped soon after 2 p.m., when news of the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv apparently compelled the Palestinian Police to control the rioters.

Yesterday, Palestinian policemen seemed to allow the stone throwers to continue for about two hours during each of two waves of rioting, before coming in force to move them from the scene, only grabbing

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Purim events to go on under tight security

By RAINE MARCUS and ELI WOHLGELER

Purim events in Tel Aviv and elsewhere will go on as scheduled today, despite Friday's terror attack, but security forces will be on high alert. Police reinforcements were brought in from other districts, and roadblocks were erected at all the city entrances.

Purim holiday events should not be cancelled because of the suicide bomb attack in Tel Aviv, although the public has to be more alert, former chief of the General Security Service Ya'acov Perry said yesterday.

Ex-GSS head Perry: Public must be more alert

By DAVID RUDGE



Ya'acov Perry (Sivan Faraj)

mental organizations to try and carry out acts like this in the future," he said. Was the Tel Aviv attack something that could have been expected and possibly avoided? "I think something like this had been expected, but I would not say that you can prevent, hermetically, such acts, especially in the case of a lone suicide bomber," replied Perry.

Ibrahim Makadmeh and the involvement of Hamas in recent talks with PA officials perhaps given the impression that they had extremists the impression that they had the green light for a renewed wave of terror attacks? "I think the Palestinians could and should do much more to prevent terrorist acts, whenever they have the right intelligence, by making arrests and interrogating people and bringing them to trial instead of letting them sit in jail for a relatively short period and then releasing them. They should not have released Makadmeh or others from prison."

COMMENT

Beyond politics are people

By MARK HELLER

The real victims of Friday's bombing are the Israelis in the Apropro Cafe and the relatives and friends who are left to mourn the dead, tend the wounded, and try to put shattered lives back together.



MDA workers wheel one of those wounded from Friday's bombing to an ambulance.

(Assaf Shilo/Israel Sun)



In this image from Channel 1, a man is seen carrying the baby girl whose mother, Anat Winter-Rosen, was killed in the suicide bombing Friday in Tel Aviv.

Twenty-six wounded remain in hospital

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Twenty-six of those wounded in the Apropro bombing remained in Tel Aviv area hospitals last night. Half were in Ichilov, the others in Sheba, Beilinson and Wolfson. One victim was in serious but stable condition, two in moderate condition, and the rest sustained light to moderate injuries.

Apropro. I saw the terrorist come in. He was an eccentric, weird looking guy, not especially "Middle Eastern" in appearance," recalled Dafna Alon, who was recovering in Ichilov Hospital. "He looked for a place to sit. I noticed him because he was unusual. There were a few seats available, and he was clearly looking for 'the best place' right in the center of the patio. He was holding a large bag, heavy-looking, which he covered partially with a yellow coat. A winter coat on such a warm day, it attracted attention. He looked strange to me. The head waiter also looked at him. All this was three minutes before the bomb went off," she continued.

"He put the bag down. I was sitting on one edge of the patio and he sat in the very middle, not far from us. Then there were pieces of glass flying everywhere. Impact. Complete chaos. My mother was at my side, she's suffering from the same symptoms, splinters, echoing in the head and ears."

US to Arafat: Say no to terrorism

By HILLEL KUTTLER and news agencies

WASHINGTON - The Clinton Administration believes the peace process is salvageable despite Friday's terrorist attack, but it is pressing Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to demonstrate publicly that he is sending only one message: No to terrorism.

with Russian President Boris Yeltsin. "There must be absolutely no doubt in the minds of the friends or of the enemies of peace that the PA is unalterably opposed to terror and unalterably committed to preempting and preventing such acts. This is essential to negotiating a meaningful and lasting peace. And I will do what I can to achieve that objective," Clinton said.

Likud MKs: Suspend talks with Palestinians

By SARAH HONG and LIAT COLLINS

Labor's leaders called for the continuation of the peace process in spite of the Tel Aviv bombing, while the Likud urged its own government to suspend all talks with the Palestinian Authority for the time being.

Israel. MK Ehud Barak, who hopes to replace Peres as party leader in June, recommended that "Israel demand that the PA do more to combat terror, but I am afraid that this is not the last such bloody test we face. There is no alternative but to fight terror till we achieve the peace."

Netanyahu, therefore, the serious challenge is not about his responsibility, but about his reaction. The inability of the previous government to mount a credible and reassuring response discredited it and/or the Oslo process in the eyes of many voters and helped pave Netanyahu's road to the Prime Minister's Office. Netanyahu first attracted international attention through his analyses of terrorism and his proposals for dealing with it, and his appeal to the Israeli public was partly based on the implicit promise that he knew how to succeed where previous leaders had failed. The basis for this promise has hitherto not been put to the test, and that itself might have been taken as legitimate evidence of success.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, while in Africa on Friday, strongly denounced the bombing and expressed his condolences. His statement, issued through a spokesman at UN headquarters in New York, added: "At the same time, the Secretary-General wishes to reiterate his appeal to the parties not to allow ominous acts of this nature to derail the peace process."

In the Hague, the Dutch presidency of the European Union extended its condolences and said it hoped the attack would not derail the peace process. "As president of the European Union it is our heartfelt hope that all those involved will continue their efforts to reach a peaceful solution for the problems in the Middle East, Dutch Prime Minister Wim Kok told a news conference. French President Jacques Chirac, in a letter to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, called the attack a "cowardly and odious" act.

Tel Aviv bounces back

By MICHAL YUDELMAN and RAINE MARCUS

Perhaps the most unforgettable image of the suicide bombing on Friday was that of the six-month-old baby girl in clown costume, being carried away by a distraught policeman.

people sitting in the Apropro cafe, enjoying their afternoon coffee and cake. It was a target so unlikely that the attack only underscored how impossible it is to guard against terror. Even if the security forces had advised people to avoid crowding into Dizengoff Center, one would have had to be paranoid to consider it dangerous to pop into the cheery cafe on the corner of Rehov Adam HaChohen.

Reuma, however, stood strong and defiant amidst the wreckage, broken glass, and upturned tables at the front of the Apropro cafe. "Reuma, 1995," a bronze statue of a headless nude woman, erected on the terrace of the preserved Bauhaus building housing the cafe, was totally undamaged by the bomb, and was the only object left intact, as police, the General Security Service, sappers, forensic squads and the Hevra Kadisha sifted through the carnage, checking the wounded's documents and personal possessions which were scattered around the area. A bowl of salad still stood on one of the tables.

For the first time, television stations broadcast their regular schedules, including *Hartzojim* and other comedies. There was extended news coverage of course, but Channel 2 put up a slide saying Tel-Adi was continuing normal broadcasts and would not succumb to terrorism. In the past, some people might have been upset, thinking this showed disrespect for the victims. But on Friday night it felt like the

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Mr. Patrick Ferrall, OBE, MA: Chairman of Lloyd's Register, London.

From bombing to bombing

By SUE FISHKOFF

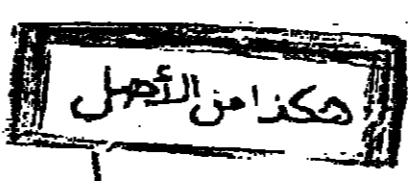
This past Thursday, Herzliya resident Larry Belkin laid a wreath at the memorial ceremony on Rehov Dizengoff held to commemorate the victims of the Dizengoff Center suicide bombing that took 13 lives on Purim one year ago. Belkin's wife Gail, 48, and her mother, Sylvia Bernstein, 73, also of Herzliya, lost their lives in that attack.

of living a long life. Most people don't get blown up. You have to have very bad luck for that to happen to you."

Mother: Life defeats terrorism

The anniversary of one suicide bombing was marked Friday by the birth of baby boy whose brother was one of last year's victims. Kochava Levy, whose 12-year-old son, Avi, was killed just before another son, weighing 3.5 kilos, to be named Matan.

"I decided it was an area that attracts problems," she says. "I'd grown up in a small Iowa town, and here in Tel Aviv, in addition to the bombings, I'd had grenades outside my apartment." Some people argue she shouldn't have run away, Bond says. But she heard both bombs from her apartment, and felt the danger was too close to home. In fact, she was headed toward the fatal corner on Rehov Dizengoff last Purim when that bomb went off.



When terror strikes 'people like us'

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

There it was, that unmistakable sound, in the midst of a peaceful Friday afternoon, I was sitting in my north Tel Aviv apartment talking on the telephone, holding my six-month-old baby on my lap.

"I just heard a loud bang," I told my friend. "Please let it be a sonic boom," I added, addressing a higher power.

But, of course, it wasn't. The horrid noise that I and all of my neighbors had heard was the terrorist attack that we, along with the entire country, expected to happen ever since the first bulldozer began to dig at Har Homa.

We expected something to happen. We just didn't expect it to happen so close to home.

The Apropro cafe is about five blocks from my house. So the explosion was closer to home than the fainter "bang" I'd heard precisely a year ago when a suicide bomber chose Dizengoff Center as his target. Closer to home than any of my terrorist attacks I'd covered as a reporter. Closer to home in more than a simple geographic sense.

This was the first incident in which maintaining journalistic distance from the event and its victims was utterly impossible — because I knew in my heart that it could have been me.

It was sheer luck that I had chosen to stay inside on that sunny Friday, instead of plying the baby in his stroller and going to meet friends in

a local cafe as I had many times before; just like the women killed in the attack — all of whom were my age, and one of whom had a baby the age of my son.

Blackly ironic, considering that a recent advertising campaign by the Apropro chain aimed at a potential yuppie clientele touted it as a place where one could hang out with "people just like you."

Apparently, Hamas has embarked on a publicity campaign similar to that of the restaurant chain — only instead of drawing us in to feast on blintzes and salads, their goal is to inform the Israeli media, cultural, business, and political elite that populate my neighborhood that "people just like us" are not out of their reach. That we are not secure simply because we don't live on the northern border, or in the territories, or in Jerusalem; or because we don't ride early-morning buses, or hang out in crowded downtown shopping malls like Dizengoff Center.

None of that, they are telling us, keeps us safe. They know where we live. And they are reminding us that despite our upscale gourmet shops, our countless espresso bars, and our trendy little boutiques — we live in the Middle East, too.

It could have been the nature of the neighborhood, or the fact that the attack came as far less of a surprise than other bombs in Tel Aviv, but the crowd that gathered at the scene of the blast afterward was unusually quiet, subdued, and well-behaved, standing politely behind the barriers

that the police had erected. There were a few members of the rightist "rent-a-mob" that tends to show up after these events. There were taken cries and signs reading "Death to Arabs," "Left-wingers go home" and even "Bibi must resign," but they were quickly swallowed up in the crowd, and after a few hours, faded away.

The vast majority of people came in the evening, as I did, staring silently as workers began sweeping up the shards of glass from the white-washed porch of the building. A few wore Purim costumes, heading to or from celebrations, others wore their daily costumes of leather jackets, pointy boots, designer eyeglass frames and other marks of Tel Aviv trendiness.

After a time, I walked the five blocks to my apartment, aware of the absurd fact that while my neighbors and I could feel safe heading home on these dark empty streets — the next time we entered a sunny crowded cafe filled with laughing, chatting "people like us," we would feel afraid.



Workers cleaning up Tel Aviv's Apropro cafe yesterday examine a glass that somehow withstood the concussion of Friday's suicide bombing. (AP)

Apropro owners vow to reopen today

By SUE FISHKOFF

Workers were busy sweeping away debris and replastering the patio ceiling at the Apropro restaurant at 75 Sderot Ben-Gurion in Tel Aviv yesterday afternoon, as restaurant co-owner Dedi Golan vowed to reopen the upscale eatery today.

"We want to show that the people of Israel won't collapse in the face of terror," he stated. "We will return to normalcy as soon as possible, to the extent that we are able."

A crew of 20 workers began repairs as soon as the last of the wounded were removed from the scene on Friday afternoon. They worked through most of Friday night and all day yesterday, replacing broken windows, painting and plastering, and polishing the outdoor tiled patio to remove the traces of Friday's suicide bombing.

The Apropro restaurant and its second-floor gallery opened just last summer, following a two-year renovation of the historic Bauhaus building in which they are situated (see sidebar). Damage to the building was initially estimated at NIS 400,000, but Golan said that figure is not final. Workers were concentrating yesterday on fixing up the ground-floor restaurant first.

Blown-out windows on the second-floor art gallery were still covered with plastic sheeting and masking tape. No artwork was damaged, Golan said, except for one painting that fell off the wall.

A team of psychologists is set to meet with the restaurant staff this morning, before the doors reopen.

Next door, at 73 Sderot Ben-Gurion, Sigi Nachmias was standing on her balcony yesterday afternoon, surveying the bomb site that lay a mere six meters from her first-floor

apartment. Nachmias was still nursing a bandaged left arm, and her face was crossed with cuts she received the explosion sent shards of glass across her living room. She was treated at Beilinson Medical Center, and returned to her badly-damaged apartment some hours later.

Shattered glass from windows, mirrors and perfume bottles lay all over her living room and bedroom floors, and chunks of plaster had been ripped out of the wall nearest to the blast.

"When I'm outside, I don't feel that affected, but as soon as I step into the house, I feel the shock all over again," she said. The front door of her building was standing open, and broken glass littered the stairwell. All the apartments in the building suffered window damage.

The mood yesterday at the site was low-key, with only a few scattered political arguments to mar the somber, if curious atmosphere. Tel Aviv resident Israel Alexander was one of those who stopped by to survey the situation. He had been visiting a friend in a nearby apartment Friday, and heard the bomb blast.

"I thought, how strange that it should thunder in the middle of a heat wave," he said, then added: "The Palestinians as a whole aren't to blame for this. It happens all over. Look at the Basques and northern Ireland. There are crazy people in every country."

"And where was this guy from? Hebron, right?" showed a young man standing next to Alexander. "Of course the Palestinians are responsible. It's not just one person, it's all of them."

Alexander shrugged. "I've known Palestinians for 40 years, and I say, you can't control what one crazy person will do."

BACKGROUND

Building's history comes full circle

By SUE FISHKOFF

When Tel Aviv's Apropro restaurant/gallery opened in the historic Beit Hannah building at 75 Sderot Ben-Gurion last summer, it marked the triumphant revival of one of the city's best-known examples of classic Bauhaus architecture.

Built as a boarding school for kibbutz girls in 1934, Beit Hannah was founded by Hannah Chizhik, an educator, Poalei Zion activist, and early leader of the Histadrut, who founded a number of girls' agricultural schools in pre-state Israel. According to Tel Aviv resident Helen Berman, a volunteer tour guide for the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, a field behind the school was used as a farm, including a cowshed.

The girls would sell the milk, fruit, and vegetables they grew from a small store at the entrance to the school, in order to finance their education. Eventually the school closed and the building fell into disuse. It was abandoned, and stood empty for more than a decade.

About five years ago, according to neighbor Shraga Steinberger, interest in Bauhaus buildings began to stir, and renovations were started on Beit Hannah. "It's a wonderful

example of classic Bauhaus architecture," he says.

A third floor, which had been added to the original structure, was torn down, and the building was restored and repainted to look as it did when it was first built. In May 1994, an international Bauhaus conference held in Tel Aviv was based at Beit Hannah, although restoration was not yet complete. Two years ago, developers for Apropro took over the job, and the restaurant and upstairs gallery opened their doors in the summer of 1996.

History has a strange way of coming full circle. The Chizhik family figured largely in early Zionist history. Hannah's brother, Ephraim, worked on the construction of the power station at Naharayim in the early 1920s, and was instrumental in establishing good relations with the neighboring Arabs. He was killed defending the Hula settlement during the Arab riots of 1929.

Hannah's sister, Sarah, died defending the Upper Galilee settlement of Tel Hai from Arab marauders on 11 Adar 1920. The anniversary of her death fell this year on March 20, just one day before the terrorist bomb attack on the historic girls' school that bears her sister's name.

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THERE AND THEN

Memorial history

By SRAYA SHAPIRO

Visiting Tel Hai in 1928, where Josef Trumpeldor and his companions were murdered seven years earlier, Sir Alfred Mond (eventually Lord Melchett) felt disgraced. Only a simple plaque covered the tomb of the hero whose life and death kindled the imagination of innumerable followers in the pursuit of the Zionist dream.

Nine are honored by a memorial; the 10th, a member of the opposition Betar organization, has a separate tablet beside the Hanita remembrance monument. A statue designed by Yitzhak Danziger, erected besides the road leading from Rosh Pina to Safed, honors Shlomo Ben-Yosef, a Betar member who was hanged by the British for firing on an Arab bus in protest at numerous attacks by Arabs on Jewish targets.

Piqued by such a manifestation of private initiative, the Histadrut, as well as the Zionist organization, declared their intentions to erect a memorial worthy of its symbolic importance in Tel Hai. Finally, however, all three initiatives merged, and Melnikoff designed "The Roaring Lion," which since 1934 has been the focus of pilgrimages for youth movements.

The War of Independence, leaving thousands dead, spurred a profusion of memorials. It was apparently Moshe Dayan who suggested leaving in place the burned-out armored vehicles hit on their ascent to Jerusalem in 1948 (although they had to be repainted not very long ago to save them from utter corrosion).

Trumpeldor was a legend. Other victims of Arab terrorism never reached that status. Itana Shamir observes in *Hantzaha Vezikaron* ("Commemoration and Remembrance, published by Am Oved, 234 pp.), a study based on her doctoral thesis. Is it because the defenders of Tel Hai were regarded in their day as supporting a mission, an ideal, as opposed to, for example, the four killed in the Arab assault on Petah Tikva at about the same time, who were defending only their property and honored only by their families and Boei Binyamin, an organization of private farmers?

Dr. Shamir estimates that over a thousand memorials of every sort are scattered all over Israel. Some are remarkable works of art, designed by a Danny Caravan or an Igal Tumarkin, which can only be seen from afar in the Negev or the Jordan Valley. Many are just huge rocks shaped by amateur acquaintances of local associations of mourners. Some are buildings, known as Yad Labanim, which serve as meeting places for cultural activities. Practically every army corps has a place which serves as a pilgrimage site, at which the memory of the fallen is periodically honored.

In the politically splintered Yishuv, politically motivated memorials were inevitable. But other elements, too, had their influences. Batya Lishansky, when she shaped the memorial for the Hilda victims of Arab attacks, made Ephraim Chizhik, one of the victims, the centerpiece of a naturalistic sculpture including Chizhik's sister (killed in Tel Hai) and a third, male, figure. She called her sculpture "Work and Defense," illustrating farm equipment at the foot of the monument.

But we have no Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This is probably in keeping with the Jewish tradition that all dead must have an identified tombstone. So, at the insistence of bereaved families, the names of the fallen are inscribed on most memorials, whatever their artistic ambition. However, the collective memory is marked, the bitter unsubduing individual agony is epitomized in the few letters that compose a name.

The symbol was appreciated in Labor circles, but the more traditionally inspired critics were uneasy about displaying human figures in a Jewish memorial. However, there seems to have been few objections to the memorial to Alexander Zaid, who is represented riding a horse on top of a mountain in Galilee.

At the establishment of the Hanita settlement on the Lebanese border in 1938, 10 defenders lost their lives.

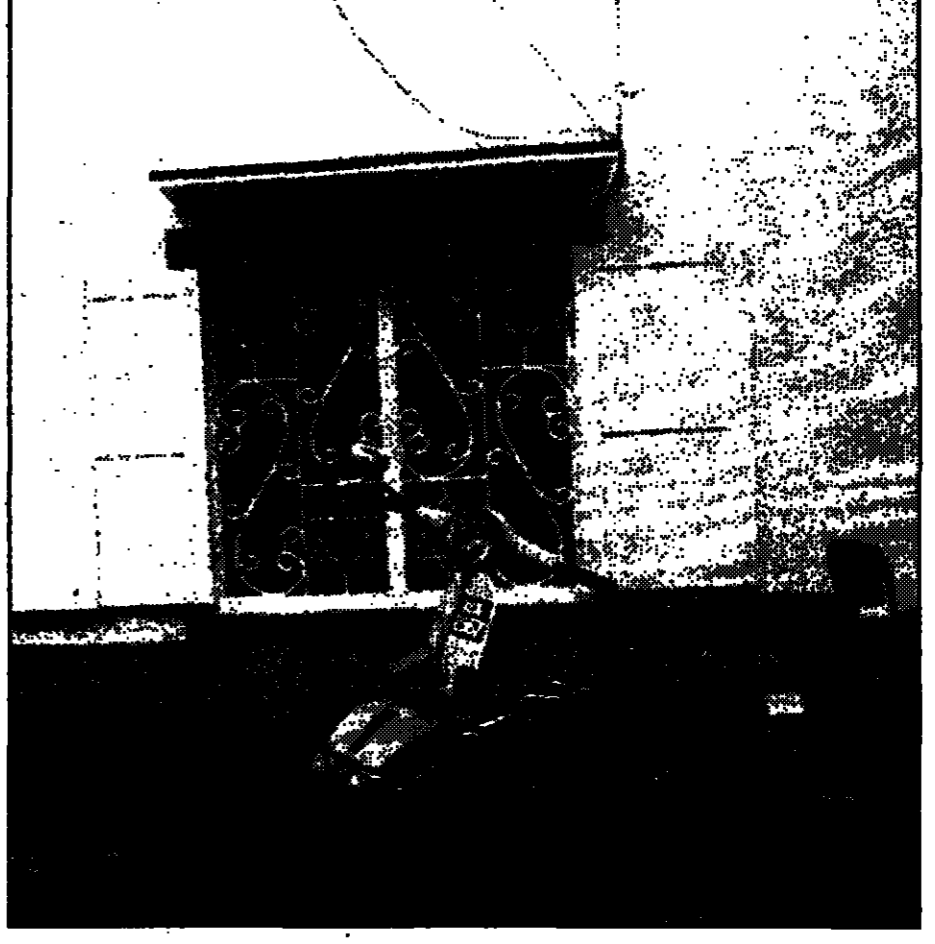


A Jewish family of Cochin in the early part of the century.

(Courtesy of Elias Madal)

The last Jews of Cochin

In southern India, a thousand-year-old Jewish community has enjoyed warm relations with its neighbors. Emily Kasriel meets the last Jews living in Cochin's Jewtown district



An iron window grille in Jewtown.

(Sara Menobin)

There are few places in the world where Jews can claim centuries of peaceful coexistence with the local population. The district of Jewtown in Cochin on the Malabar Coast of Southern India is one of them.

It is a community which has survived for more than a thousand years, witnessing successive waves of conquerors and traders, the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British. These foreigners, as well as the Jews who came before them, were enticed by the rich spices of this tropical coast: cardamom, cinnamon, ginger, and above all, pepper. But today most of the Jews have emigrated.

The current and probably last leader of the remaining community is Samuel Hallegua, whose own family came to Cochin in 1590 from Spain via Syria. When Samuel Hallegua, or Uncle Sammy as he is known in Jewtown, takes the two-minute stroll up Synagogue Lane to the Paradesi synagogue, he knows it is a walk that his ancestors have made for hundreds of years. "The whole street is home," he says. "We were an extended family more than a community, and so it was until the very end of this street."

Synagogue Lane is a narrow street protected from the tropical sun by old houses painted ochre, lime and sky blue. A generation ago most of them were lived in by Jewish families. Today antique shops are more common as there are only a few dozen Jews left. The majority have chosen to leave India and start a new life in one of the many Cochin Jewish communities in Israel.

Yet a strong sense of community still exists in Cochin. Sammy's wife, Queeny, tempts foreign guests and friends who have known the family for generations with spicy delicacies unique to Cochin Jewry. Not chicken soup but chicken carry laced with the hot chillies, coconut and coriander of Kerala. There is no contradiction as far as they are concerned in the pride Sammy and his community feel in being both Indian and Jewish; their Jewish identity is infused with the history of their ancestors in India. No one knows when Jews first came to settle in the Malabar coast; most scholars put it at over 1,500 years ago. When the Portuguese came here in the 16th century and threatened the Jews, it was the local Hindu maharaja who offered them sanctuary and land to build a synagogue.

Without the help of foreign Jewish visitors it can be difficult to make a minyan every Saturday, but festivals are celebrated with a joyous enthusiasm. There is no rabbi so Sammy leads the service and everyone joins in. There are prayer books hand-written in Hebrew as well as the local language of Malayalam, and many of the melodies sung are unique to Cochin Jewry.

The synagogue itself is over 400 years old and is covered with blue and white hand-painted floor tiles brought from China in the 18th century by one of Sammy's ancestors, Ezekiel Rahabi. Rahabi was a prominent member of the community who was also the foremost spice trader of the time and the representative of the Dutch East India company. Sammy is an effective leader of the community. He encourages young people to

learn more about their Jewish tradition and welcomes foreign dignitaries such as President Ezer Weizman, who visited last December. But there is no one to succeed him. His son David celebrated a traditional Cochin Jewish wedding last year, yet it was held in Los Angeles where he now lives. The few young people left believe that to live a full Jewish life they too will have to emigrate. Yet Sammy himself could never consider leaving Jewtown. "I've heard people who have gone for the first time to Israel and breathed in the air [and] say something is different. For me this is where I want to live and the air I want to breathe. A fish out of water won't survive and I won't survive outside Cochin."

HEADS 'N' TAILS

Pets as gifts

By DYORA BEN SHAU

Puppies, kittens and other animals are not toys. They should never be given as gifts unless one knows exactly what their future is likely to be. It is amazing how many people have unwanted pets and are proud that they "got rid of them all" by giving them away, usually to neighborhood children.

in, cleaned up and taken to the veterinarian for injections, I make sure that whoever gets the animal pays for the inoculations. People who won't pay for these cannot be trusted to call a veterinarian if the animal is ill or properly provide for it.

In most cases, they did not ask the parents of the child if they wanted the responsibility of a small animal. The child "fell in love" with the puppy and they gave it to him without question. In most cases, the child assured them it would be "OK" with the parents. I often tell men who want to buy a puppy for their children that I would like to speak with their wives. In 99 percent of the cases I have observed, it is the wife who accepts the responsibilities entailed in keeping an animal.

It is not a very flattering criticism of humans, but people show more respect toward things for which they paid. When a puppy you bought makes a spot on the carpet, it is somehow less of a disaster than if it was by the dog someone just dumped on you.

So, except in special circumstances, I don't think animals should ever be given as gifts. Even when I have a stray animal that I have taken

care of, I make sure that whoever gets the animal pays for the inoculations. People who won't pay for these cannot be trusted to call a veterinarian if the animal is ill or properly provide for it.

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abbits hats AM HATTIS ROLES... prime minister... absolutely right when... Friday's terror... those who limit... the decision to... And he was right... the... of the... of appearing to... attacks at this... he was right in... General Security... down immediately... anian counterparts... was right because... what the government... can't do, there are... to be individuals... on committing such... because those who... thing in their power... them - not to mention... appear to encourage... of slung off all respons... ere's just one problem... nyahu's reaction... non Peres prime... y, Netanyahu would... the first to argue... it was the result of... ment's policy; and... who relies on "the... " Anafat and his... orists" for security, is... y, what he deserves... etanyahu has had... ces to ask both Per... zhak Rabin's widow... him for making... assassinations in the... t of his election camp...

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'Pest' finds a polite bus driver

Exclusive interview, Magazine

Ovadia Yosef's Ashkenazi roots

Page 13



Israel's NY envoy asks: 'Aht medaberet Ivrit?'

Amud 8

Faisal Hussein Index

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You're doin' fine, Okla Homa

Dairy: Oh, what a beautiful shtetl

By ROGER HAMMERSTEIN

Following its fiasco in attempting to build a Jewish neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem, the government has launched a sequel to Har Homa.

On the plains of Moab, near the McDonald's restaurant that graces the skyline, Prime Minister Bibi Netan-Yahoo has decided to build

Atlanta Braves mascot Chief Knock-a-Homa: They stole my name, Page 2

once again — this time, the new settlement of Okla Homa.

"We know we belong to the land," crooned Bibi.

"And the land we belong to is grand," chimed in Netan-Yahoo's senior adviser David Bar-None.

The new neighborhood will be equally divided into secular and religious tracts. The latter group,

comprised mostly of farmers, intend to build fences to keep their livestock in place.

"We sincerely hope that the secular won't build fences across our cattle ranges," said spokesman Rabbi Aryeh Dairy.

To ensure peaceful coexistence, the government is sponsoring a box social where the farmers and the cowboys can get to know one another.

"We'll get along fine," said Dairy, "as long as the square dancing is segregated. Our people dosey-do separately."

"We also request that daylight savings time not be instituted to allow us the opportunity to pray *Shaharit* as well as sing "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning!"

One sticking point may be transportation. The religious claim that only they are permitted to drive the surrey, especially the one with the fringe on top.

"That's fine," said farmer spokeswoman, Shulamit Annie Oakley. "Whenever Rabbi Dairy starts to talk purty, I can't say no."



Aryeh Dairy, home on the range.

Repetition again and again... and again

By LOIS and CLARK

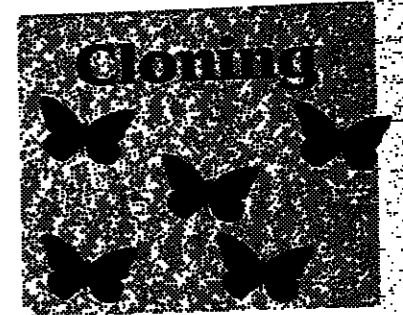
At a press conference held yesterday, *The Jerusalem PEST* announced a startling new development in print journalism: The newspaper has learned to clone reporters.

"We're tired of this uneven quality of writing," said editor-in-chief Geoff Gobroke. "So we took a poll, decided who our best two writers are, and then made 10 copies of each. It's kind of funny when they all show up at staff meetings, but we're getting used to it."

This information would explain why ace reporter Jusie Seagull was seen simultaneously at a medical convention, a Brit and her dentist's. Similarly, the presence of David McKugel at the prime minister's press conference, a Betar soccer game and a backyard barbecue can now be understood without resorting to extraterrestrial explanations.

"And the best part of it," jubilated managing-editor Carl Schrooge, "is that they're all the same people. We only have to pay

two salaries for the lot." Seagull was equally enthusiastic, but for different reasons. "I send two of them home every day to do the household chores and



pick up the kids. It's great." The down side was voiced by Ms. McKugel who has noticed an increase in her food bills and laundry loads. "There's also another problem," she said. "Can you imagine 11 Davids on Friday night all singing *Shalom Aleichem* off-key?"

Continued on Page 7



No more Mr. Nice Guy. Referees and coaches will be packing heat this track season. (AP)

Jumping the Gun

By NOMO JOHO

The International Olympic Committee has developed a novel approach to runners who make false starts: shoot them.

"We're already the judges. Now we're going to be the executioners as well," said Cambodian referee Pot Shot.

"Early starts have marred the game for years. All that steroid abuse. The runners can't keep still," he

said. "Plus, it's not like we shoot to kill or anything."

In addition to incurring a fine, any athlete shot is automatically disqualified from that day's events. As Mr. Shot was speaking, an ambulance whisked away a young runner with an untimely case of the hiccups.

"From now on, when they jump the gun, the gun is gonna jump right back. If they can't keep still, let 'em try out for the pole vault."

New revelations in Dairy-Bar-Off-Hebron-South Lebanon-Damascus-Law of Return-IDF motivation-Har Homa scandal

By AYALA 'SCOOP' CHALFEN

In a shocking announcement to the Knesset yesterday, Shas MK Aryeh Dairy declared that he will accept the appointment of a reform rabbi as Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem on condition that charges against him relating to the Bar-Off scandal relating to charges against him about fraudulent activity are dropped.

"We have come to a deal," Dairy allegedly claimed. "The IDF will withdraw from Lebanon, Yossi Sorry will be given a house in Damascus, Syrian President Hafez al-Assad will be built a home on Har Homa, the Kotel will be opened to non-segregated prayer, the Law of Return will not be updated, Bar-Ilan Street will be closed on Shabbat, yeshiva students will serve in the army, IDF combat soldiers will be served Chinese food and Ora Nicehair will remain in China."

Nobody was present at the plenum to hear his statement. However, a janitor, who is currently being questioned by the police, said he overheard Dairy's speech while removing manure from Eatingwell Sharon's seat.

"That Sharon!" the cleaner said. "Can't he clean his shoes after mucking about his ranch?"

After screaming about the mess Sharon makes every time he enters the Knesset, the cleaner said he heard Dairy exclaim that justice will be done and that there is no corruption in the government.

In a later interview, Dairy downplayed the importance of his statement, saying he was speaking randomly from the podium, preparing his voice elevation for his upcoming defense at the Supreme Court.

"These comments are outrageous and blatant lies," Knesset Speaker Dan Talkon told a Channel 1 interviewer in an off-the-record conversation. "I have almost a dozen of

The everyone's-in-on-it affair

my boys awaiting trial or on trial. I wouldn't believe a word that any of them say."

Asked if this was a satisfactory response to this mindblowing compendium of payoffs which could only have been compiled in a sequence of back-room meetings, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kojakni said that leaking secret documents does not pose a threat to the country's security, clearly referring to Agriculture Minister Rafool Eitan's recent acquittal. Foreign Minister David Beitshean did not understand the question.

Outside a father-and-son Purim fancy dress party, Prime Minister Binyamin Netan-Yahoo and his son Yair, both dressed up as Rav Ovadia Yossel, spoke to reporters. "I want to go back to the party, daddy," said the little Yossel, scratching his beard. "How does this man see through such dark lenses?" Netan-Yahoo senior replied. Neither appeared to grasp the seriousness of the situation which could cause a split in the coalition, a collapse of the government, a civil war, and the possibility of Elvis becoming prime minister.

"We have to walk in the footsteps of peace. Love me tender," Elvis said in a heavy Polish accent. MK Shi-moan Peres was apparently under the Elvis Costume.

Dairy is supposed to appear in the Knesset tomorrow to review his statement. Close aides say that in his usual style, he will probably not attend.

Hole-ly war averted at Education Ministry

By JERRY ATRICK

A major row at the Education Ministry was averted last night, following haredi complaints of "Trinitarian notebooks."

"I was sitting in my office yesterday," said deputy director Moshe Tuschsitzer, when three yeshiva students and their rabbi burst in on me, waving notebook paper in my face. At first, I thought they were going to set me alight."

"We object to three-ring loose-leaf paper," said the leader, Rabbi Werfstein of the Bar-Ilan Hilltop

Yeshiva, "because it brings up associations with the Christian concept of the Trinity. If the children start writing on *goyische* stationery, what's to stop them from writing novels later on, like that *schmutzige yid*, Philip Roth?"

When a compromise was suggested — that two-ring paper be used — the Rabbi at first objected because it still undermined the One God approach. He later agreed when it was pointed out that the two holes could be understood as two synagogues: the one he goes to, and the one he would n't be caught dead in.

The Prime Minister's office is looking for an

Au pair

Applicants should be courteous, hygiene-conscious, great cooks, have an aversion to talking to media, speak English and have sexy legs. Call 555-NANNY Ask for Bibi

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Launch Pampers, not missiles

Throwing dirty diapers has, over the past few months, become the latest Haredi weapon against the Shabbat-breaking public.

region's savior? Semites were born to quarrel; turning those swords into diaper-firing splurge guns could seriously reduce fatalities in our unresolvable squabble.

In a call to battle, Bar-Ilan tactics have clearly been borrowed from both the Intifada youth and Eggy Malone. But instead of sticks and stones, ammunition has been usurped by the "splurge."

If the Altalena had been bringing diapers into Palestine in 1948 it is most likely that the Haggana would not have attacked the Etzel ship, cutting down one of the fundamentals of left-wing/right-wing division in its infancy.

And just like the original, the entire story is played by kids. Kids because what sort of responsible, honorable adult would throw dirty diapers (unless they were throwing out the trash)?

And this is only before the birth of the state. Can you imagine the headlines of June 5 1967: "Entire Egyptian airforce splattered by diapers in preemptive Israeli strike?"

But the dirty diapers have not helped close the case. Taken to the Knesset, they sat on it (no pun intended) and then, not so promptly, referred it to the supreme court.

What's more, using diapers instead of missiles would save the countries in the region a fortune; war would be much less financially constrained - and fatalities reduced.

Sure the environmentalists aren't up in arms; the extra fertilizer is a delivery from God, true manna-in-the-wilderness style.

Not only are these homemade weapons more legal than a sawed-off shotgun, but the source of weapons are endless because the more babies you have, the more diaper bombs you can produce.

But maybe, thinking about it more carefully, the revival of a (technologically updated) splurge gun is actually a blessing in disguise.

YOU CALL YOURSELF A PARENT?

Go on, snoop on your kids

By RUTH RAISIN

Our 38-year-old daughter has been acting strangely lately. She stays in her room a lot, keeps to herself and seems very secretive.

You know you want to

garden teacher and nutritionist, replies:

1. Talk to her. Ask her directly whether her life has improved significantly. There is no need to confront her about possible details.

support as early as possible. When parents feel alone, they often feel helpless. One excellent source of support is Parents for Celibate Daughters, a group funded by Just One Wife, a not-for-profit organization that supports female premarital chastity.

It is natural and normal for children to look at, smell, touch and even taste all their bodily secretions (although not all have any nutritional value).

You could say something like, "You're not talking to us like you used to." It is important for parents to let their child know that they see what is going on in his or her life.

If the behavior change turns out not to be sex-related, you should really start worrying.

It is a pity that parents are expected to teach their children manners in an age-appropriate way. Otherwise, you could look forward to cutting down on your food bill.

2. Find out if other people in your child's life - friends, neighbors, peeping Toms - share your concerns and/or have information that you lack. Don't keep this exploration a secret from your child.

I'm embarrassed to write this, but in my four-year-old's nursery school, all the children pick their noses and eat the snot. Now my son has started doing it too. Is there a nutritional reason for it?

If you think we know more than you do about parenting, write to: You Call Yourself a Parent?, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

3. Check the sheets.

Nasa Litch, experienced kinder-

WE'RE RIGHT, YOU'RE WRONG

Oh no! They're coming for us

By DENNIS THE MENACE and DANGEROUS DAN

Reliable intelligence sources (i.e. our imaginations) have warned the writers of this column of a sinister plot to destroy Israel.

cold, wet winter's morning on Paris' Rue Aggrandissement, Sheva, disguised as a tea lady, uncovered a wicked scheme to deal a massive blow to the Jewish state.

training. While pretending to pour cups of tea, he committed the plot to memory.

"Jerusalem." "By the Rivers of Babylon (Where I Kissed Ass)," and "The Monkey and the Engineer."

Our sources tell us how Mossad mole "Efes Pa'amayim Sheva" penetrated the hidden headquarters of a mysterious international organization so secretive that not even its members know its name. On a

Armed with only a selection of cakes and cookies, and at great risk to himself - recalling such heroic Israeli deeds as the liberation of Jerusalem, the raid on Entebbe, and Cinderella Rockefeller - Sheva lingered over the custard creams. His black garters were too tight, his stockings were killing him, but Sheva remembered his

Following the success of campaigns such as Iran the World, Just Say No (to the Zionist entity), and Band Aid (a front organization for notorious Arabs Bassam Aid and Abuz Aid), the conspirators hatched their scheme to invade the rock fortress.

But top billing goes to new local band Islamic Yee-ha, famous for such country and western overgreens as "Stand by your Machine Gun," "The Devil Went Down to Gaza," and "Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini." (sub-editor: please check)

VIEW FROM NOWHERE IN PARTICULAR

I've lost my train of thought

By MOISSE CONEHEAD

Some people will say that words like "scum" and "rotten" are wrong for Objective Journalism - which is true, but they miss the point.

turkeys out there will jump to the conclusion that they are princes (hah hah) and that it is really I who am mad.

How wonderful to find a good quote with an erudite excuse to put "sex" at the start of my weekly screed and so impress one's circle (albeit narrow) of enlightened friends, while confusing whatever lefty rabble manage to get beyond the first paragraph!

Sadly, too many of my own Jewish brethren often miss the point and I have to wait for a word of understanding from some damn goy. Like the "good Carolina Christian" who wrote to me: "Please come from under the table, O wise one, and join my family as the turkey 'above table' next Thanksgiving."

Wherever those "frontiers" are at the moment, it is worth pausing to say "yah, boo, nady-naa" to alleged Rais Ar-a-rat and so-called ex-prime minister Vulture.

I can only say a simple thank you for offering to "honor the turkey in your midst."

Be that as it may, or "not be," (Hamlet III.i.56) and, to paraphrase that pinko dropout disgusting anarchist Hunter S. Thompson, (Hunter, cf. Nimrod; S. as in snail; Thompson, Old Finnish son; of Rebbe Thom) whose subversive "scum and rotten" columns made him rich so why not mipe? Who said life was fair to the wise and just?

It is clear there are no differences in a Cappadocian or Sephoric proto-ancient, within the context of the stylistic idiosyncrasies between the Raya Mehemma and the Tikkuim, except (of course) where the Hebrew root projects tendencies of ebb and flow (in Kabbalistic terms anyway) between hitpashtut and hitaklut.

As well as wondering what I'm babbling about, you may also wonder why I'm writing this under the table. (If you had not gleamed that from the context, you're too dumb to be reading this clever column - ask the editor to bring back the simplistic Spy on the Media which I could write better anyway and often did and that opinionated leftist, David Burling-On, never noticed.)

It took a Lurianic anti-Sabbatanism with its dangerous amalgam of neutralization and deneutralization to lead to a point, in a sentence such as this, where one has covered oneself with enough blue smoke and mirrors of incomprehensible erudite gibberish to make the serious point one really wanted to make all along.

Yes indeed, now you got it. I am the turkey under your weekly table whom only the intellectual princes among our readers will recognize as the truly wise man.

Which is - Good old Bibi! "For he hath thrown the Vulture and his rat pack, and their terrorist-Arab-loving wimpy peacenik lackeys, and Aviv Geffen and his sex- and drug-crazed groupies, and the goyische bacon-eating rabble from Sheinkin into the wilderness and the trashcans of Tel Aviv."

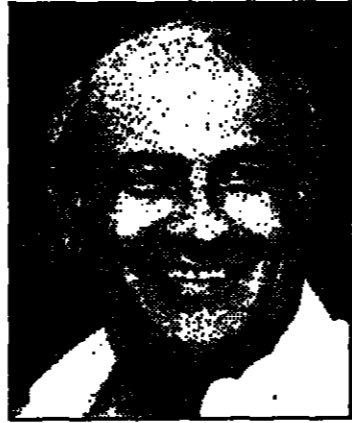
Only the more foolhardy leftist

How true, but we with the amulets "diz" vote the "right" ones in this time. Right? Right? For it was written "The wolf shall devour the lamb ... and the turkeys shall rule the earth from Kiryat Arba yea unto Har Homa, and even the nannies in the House of Orient shall tremble." (Neanyahu, Mrs., 36:24:36)

"So it is written. So let it be done!" (Yul Brynner in a lousy Pharaonic accent, The Ten Commandments, by Cecil B. de Mille).

Separated at birth?

Now it can be told: Some major public figures have near-twins, Morris Ayin reports



Avigdor Kahalani and Marion Brando: Making the no-goodniks an offer they can't refuse?



King Hussein and Sean Connery: Officers and gentlemen?



Bottom photos: Speak for themselves.



GRIPEVINE

Wiseguy falls for Clinton

By FREER GAY TRASHCAN

Who says our country has no empathy? When Fulbright scholar and former Arkansas Governor President Bill Clinton, was on his way back from the Abraham Lincoln suite after entertaining his new Asian friend Mun E. Guy with scrumptious lemon tarts and fine, freshly-brewed coffee, he tripped over Socks the cat, who was frolicking in the hallway with none other than Millie, the best-selling author and pet of former first lady Barbara Bush.

found on their raid of the house of attorney-general for a day Roni Bar-On. In his portable swing closet, which sells at Gravitz for NIS 500, hung a few bikinis and seductive one-pieces from Geton Oberseon's newest women's swimwear collection.

SPEAKING of legs, Sara Netanyahu, whose own off-black control-top panty hose once lasted throughout an entire tete-a-tete with former Jordanian Prime Minister Abdul Karim al-Kabari, presented this year's best import of the year awards to the Jewish Zionist Hosiery Association. Netanyahu graciously presented the MVP award to marketing manager Dorothy Willinger, creator of brands such as "Brown Gurion," "Purple Herzl" and "Pink Peres."

It's all a sad testimony to show that peace with our enemies remains as elusive as ever. We bring the public's attention to this danger not because we've succeeded in cooking up a new conspiracy but to reveal the latest example of the Netanyahu government's shameless, shameful and shaming negligence.

MEANWHILE, down at the other end of Hayarkon Street in Tel Aviv - where a Madonna poster decorated one storefront - Zev Shiff, third cousin to the neighbor of the estranged step-daughter of Uzi Usheshtitsyn, who is soon to be Ambassador from the tumultuous Albania, went to work as usual, taking news of the posting in his stride.

CONGRATULATIONS to The Jerusalem Pest's paperboy Ralph Salem, 18, who delivered his 10,000th Pest this month to cat-owner and plastic cutlery design industry doyen, Joe Smith. Smith was not the only dignitary at the intimate gathering for Salem, which took place at The Jerusalem Pest's office amid tray upon tray of Bissli, a snack product owned by Australian magnate Fizzy Libeler, and a couple of bottles of no-frills Coo-Coo for Cola soft drink.

ONE fact that Woodwardesque Ayala Hasson didn't have sources for was what the police

Shmullik Levy, The Jerusalem Pest's printing press manager for the past 120 years, and Anatoly Dyevetchky, The Jerusalem Pest's guard of their exclusive new parking lot for the last two weeks, were a perfect combination of something old and something new. Borrowed was Salem's remark in his award acceptance speech: "You like me! You really like me!" Which would have left even Places in the Heart's Sally Field feeling blue.

You're in Israel Drive like an Israeli

SPORTS

in brief

Seles wins in first match of '97

KEY BISCAINE, Florida (AP) - Monica Seles began another comeback with a victory in the Lipton Championships in her first match this year.
Seles beat Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 on Friday. The match was Seles' first since she broke her right index finger while catching a ball in December. Her return was delayed because her father, Karolj, has been undergoing chemotherapy for stomach cancer.
The match was Seles' first in the Lipton since 1992, and the first in her home state since she became a US citizen in 1994.

Kings fire head coach Garry St. Jean

SACRAMENTO, Ca. (Reuter) - Garry St. Jean, who coached the Sacramento Kings to their first playoff berth in 10 years but never finished above .500 in four-plus seasons, was fired Thursday.
Eddie Jordan, hired by St. Jean as an assistant five years ago, will take over the 28-39 team for the remainder of the season. Assistant vice president of basketball operations Wayne Cooper will join assistants Mike Bratz and Pete Carril on the bench.
In his four-plus seasons with the Kings, St. Jean had a 159-236 (.403) record. He was an assistant under Don Nelson with the Golden State Warriors before joining the Kings.

UEFA may abandon Interoto Cup

NYON, Switzerland (Reuter) - UEFA has hinted it might scrap the Interoto Cup because of a lack of interest.
"In terms of the books (accounts) the picture is not very heartening," general secretary Gerhard Aigner wrote in the March edition of UEFA's monthly bulletin.
"The promotion of the competition suffers from the absence of clubs from the large associations, which means that the market is rather restricted."
"...this situation has not improved, and there are moreover no signs that it will improve in forthcoming seasons."
The English, Italian and Spanish football associations all declined to take part in this year's close season tournament, despite the lure of three UEFA Cup places.

Trouser-dropping coach banned for 14 months

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuter) - A Brazilian coach has been banned from the bench for 14 months after he ran on to the pitch during a match and dropped his trousers.
Itaperuna coach Paulo Mata lost his temper when his team conceded a controversial goal and then had three players sent off during last week's 3-2 home defeat to Vasco da Gama in the Rio de Janeiro championship.
He charged on to the field, ripped off his shirt and ran towards the referee. When police stopped his progress he then ripped his trousers, before being led away ranting at the officials. He later announced he was abandoning football because he was tired of being "scandalously robbed."

Newcastle float valued at \$307 million

LONDON (Reuter) - English premier league club Newcastle said on Friday that their stock market flotation valued the club at £193 million (\$307.4 million).
The offering of 40 million shares was priced at 135 pence (215 cents) per share and would raise £54 million for the club, a statement from Newcastle's investment bank NatWest Markets said.
Dealing in the shares will begin on April 2.

England, Fiji advance to rugby sevens last-8

HONG KONG (AP) - Defending champions England had to battle hard to beat Cook Islands but top-seed Fiji crushed Wales and Namibia yesterday as the English and Fijians advanced to the quarterfinals of the Rugby World Cup Sevens tournament.
Fielding five players from the squad that won the inaugural title in Scotland four years ago, the English whipped Canada 30-7 before battling to a 29-10 victory over the Cook Islands in Pool F.
The Cook Islands, who upset Canada 5-0 earlier, held England to 10-10 at halftime before succumbing in the second half before a capacity 40,000 crowd at the Hong Kong Stadium.
The Fijians, underlined their status as favorites to win the tournament after brushing aside Namibia 66-0, and Wales 35-0 in Pool A.
South Africa were the second-ranked team after yesterday's group play with victories over Ireland 34-7 and Hong Kong 29-5 in Pool B.
In the quarterfinals, South Africa face Five Nations champions France, who won Pool D with a 26-0 victory over Romania and a 40-7

ICC seeks new markets and fresh formats

LONDON (Reuter) - Cricket, born and nurtured on the English green, seeks new markets and fresh formats as the sporting world hurtles towards the millennium.
"It is obvious that there is an urgent need to develop the game, both among existing cricket countries and in new areas," an interim report from the International Cricket Council's development committee said.
"If this is not done, cricket will be under threat from other sporting codes and leisure activities." Two radical initiatives suggested by the committee include an annual one-day tournament at Disneyland, Florida, and a biennial World Cup in place of the present four-yearly competition.
"Internationally televised cricket is our No. 1 marketing tool to give global exposure to the game, to inspire our youth to play the game and promote the role models of the game," the reports says.
Disneyland, home of manufactured childhood dreams, is light years removed from pre-industrial England where rural laborers whiled away the long summer nights with bat and ball.
But cricket, in common with other sports, has always had to fight for its existence.
W.G. Grace brought glamor and mass popularity to the game in the Victorian age and helped cricket to evolve into a sport which could be adapted by the public schools and spread across the British Empire.
The sport gained rather than lost support during Australia in the great depression as Don Bradman symbolized the aspirations of thousands of his countrymen and it became something akin to a religion in the West Indies through the exploits of Learie Constantine, George Headley and Garfield Sobers.
Kerry Packer, who briefly hijacked the game in the late 1970s when he signed up the world's best players for a rival tournament, outraged the traditionalists but brought the game into the modern era with day-night one-day matches and colored clothing.
Outwardly the world game seems healthy, with a global television audience of 1.5 billion for last year's World Cup staged in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
However, ICC members are acutely aware that the battle for spectators and television revenues is more bitter than ever.
"I don't want to spell doom," said committee chairman Ali Bacher, former captain of one of the great South African sides.
"But we have got to recognize that if we don't do anything about it we could have an acute problem... we have to get more people playing." Bacher believes the way forward is to package the game appropriately for its audience.
To entice an American audience, whose atten-

Arizona stuns Kansas; Providence, N. Carolina, Louisville advance

Minnesota, Kentucky, Utah, UCLA also win in NCAA tourney

NEW YORK (AP) - Kansas was the No. 1 team in college basketball almost all season, but the Jayhawks won't be No. 1 when the season's over.
Arizona, which was knocked out of the tournament by Kansas last year, used its quickness to stun the bigger Jayhawks 85-82 Friday night and advance to the Southeast Regional final.
"The thing I loved all week long was their attitude," Arizona coach Lute Olson said. "It was like, 'You think we're in awe of them? We're not in awe of anybody.'"
Freshman Mike Bibby scored 21 points and Michael Dickerson added 20 for fourth-seeded Arizona (22-9) will play 10th-seeded Providence today for a berth in the Final Four.
Providence, which nearly blew an NCAA bid at the end of the regular season, advanced with a 71-65 win over 14th-seeded Tennessee-Chattanooga in the late game at Birmingham, Alabama.
At the East Regional in Syracuse, New York, fourth-seeded Louisville overcame the loss of star DeJuan Wheat with a severe ankle sprain and beat No. 10 Texas 78-63 to reach the final eight.
The Cardinals' opponent in today's regional final will be top-seeded North Carolina, which overcame a seven-point deficit midway through the second half to defeat fifth-seeded California 63-57.
The other regional finals last night were top-seeded Minnesota (30-3) vs. No. 2 UCLA (24-7) in the Midwest, and top-seeded Kentucky (33-4) vs. No. 2 Utah (29-3) in the West.
On Thursday, the four games went into overtime - and one of



UNEXPECTED DELIGHT - Arizona's A.J. Bramlett raises his arms in victory as Kansas's Jacques Vaughn leaves the court in disappointment following the defeat of the Southwest top seeds 85-82. (Reuter)

Jordan rules as Bulls defeat Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Michael Jordan and Reggie Miller had no contest Friday night as Jordan scored 36 points and helped lead Miller to 18 as the Chicago Bulls defeated the Indiana Pacers 117-98.
Jordan shot 11-of-25 from the field and hit 13 of 14 free throws as he topped the 30-point mark for the 38th time this season, including 11 of his last 15 games.
Miller, meanwhile, had little room to shoot against Jordan and was 5-of-17 from the field, including 2-for-10 from 3-point range.
Scottie Pippen scored 18, Luc Longley and Steve Kerr had 15 each and Dennis Rodman grabbed 19 rebounds. Rik Smits led five Indiana players in double figures with 20.
Heat 98, Lakers 97
In Miami, Willie Anderson hit two free throws with 17.4 seconds left after a basket by Elden Campbell was waved off, and Nick Van Exel missed a jumper at the buzzer as Miami beat Los Angeles. Voshon Lenard paced Miami

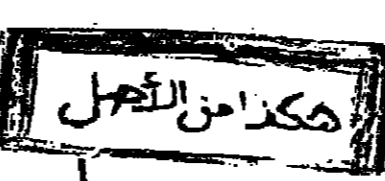
Sabres nail down playoff berth with win over Capitals

LANDOVER, Maryland (Reuter) - The Buffalo Sabres Friday became the fifth National Hockey League team to clinch a playoff berth with a 4-1 victory over the Washington Capitals.
Jason Dawe scored twice and Mike Peca had a goal and an assist for the Sabres, who joined Colorado, Dallas, Philadelphia and New Jersey as teams that have booked passage into the post-season battle for the Stanley Cup.
Steve Shields made 30 saves in place of the injured Dominik Hasek as Buffalo won for the fourth time in five games despite tying a franchise-low with a mere 12 shots on the Washington goal.
Buffalo is 13-3-6 in its last 22 games and moved within one point of second place New Jersey and three of first-place Philadelphia in the Eastern Conference chase for home ice advantage through the playoffs.
Dawe's 21st goal gave the Sabres a 2-1 lead with 6:10 left in the second period. He added his 22nd at 12:14 of the third to open a two-goal cushion.
Peter Bondra was the only Capital to get the puck past Shields, scoring his team-leading 43rd goal for Washington.
In New York, Russ Courtnall's short-handed goal broke a second-period tie and Glenn Healy made 33 saves as the Rangers beat the Detroit Red Wings 3-1.
Mark Messier and Wayne Gretzky also scored for New York.
Messier's 35th goal just 3:13 into the game was career number 574, moving him past Mike Bossy into sole possession of 10th place on the all-time list.
Thursday's Games: Florida 2, Ottawa 2; Pittsburgh 6, Toronto 3; Colorado 4, Chicago 2; St. Louis 4, Hartford 1; San Jose 2, Vancouver 1.
Friday's Games: Florida 2, Ottawa 2; Pittsburgh 6, Toronto 3; Colorado 4, Chicago 2; St. Louis 4, Hartford 1; San Jose 2, Vancouver 1.
Saturday's Games: N.Y. Rangers 3, Detroit 1; Buffalo 4, Washington 1; Dallas 2, Hartford 0; Colorado 4, Anaheim 3; Tampa Bay 4, Calgary 3, OT.

Patient Bacher puts South Africa on top in third Test v. Aussies

PRETORIA (Reuter) - Opener Adam Bacher batted throughout the day to post a patient, unbeaten 94 and put South Africa in command on the second day of the third and final Test against Australia at Centurion Park yesterday.
The 23-year-old Transvaal batsman provided a study in concentration as South Africa reached 240 for three at the close - a lead of 13 over Australia who were bowled out for 227 on Friday.
Bacher's innings was spread over six hours five minutes after he had taken 50 minutes to get off the mark in the morning session.
He cut out the hook shot which had twice led to his downfall in the series but still struck 11 boundaries, including a six over midwicket off the luckless Shane Warne.
With Brian McMillan hitting 55 to become the first South African number three to score a first innings half-century in the 20 Tests of coach Bob Woolmer's reign the home batsman finally struck back against the Australian bowlers.
South Africa had been bowled out for 302 and 130 in losing the Johannesburg Test and 209 and 168 in suffering a similar fate at Port Elizabeth.
Neither Bacher or McMillan gave a chance although both repeatedly played and missed against leg-spinner Shane Warne.
McMillan was also twice struck on the helmet attempting to hook Jason Gillespie bouncers while Bacher was struck painfully on the hand and elbow.
The second wicket pair posted South Africa's first century partnership of the series, putting on 102 for the second wicket.
McMillan, who hit eight boundaries, was finally out after two and three quarter hours when he was caught at short leg from the off spin of Mark Waugh.
A second century stand between Bacher and Daryll Cullinan, followed as Bacher accelerated after taking almost four hours to reach his 50.
Cullinan, who has been tormented by Waugh in the past, responded by hitting the leg-spinner back over his head in a fluent innings of 47 before he was bowled off an inside edge by Glenn McGrath.
Bacher was unable to reach his maiden Test century before the close but did pass one landmark when he reached 83 to become the first batsman for seven seasons to score 1,000 first-class runs in a South African season. The last man to do so was Roy Pienaar in 1989-90.
Earlier Gary Kirsten had become the 300th Test victim of Australian keeper, Ian Healy who took a routine catch to miss the opener off the bowling of McGrath.

Joseph Hoffman and Ori Lewis: Sports Editors



PA arrests five Hamas activists

By JON IMMANUEL

Five Hamas activists, including the recently released Ibrahim Makadmeh, were arrested by the Palestinian Police on Friday, Gaza security sources reported.

Speaking at an Islamic Salvation party "Jerusalem Rally" in Khan Yunis, attended by many Hamas and Islamic Jihad supporters, Makadmeh lauded Friday's suicide bombing in Tel Aviv, saying "the mujahedin should blow up the enemies of Allah to stop the bulldozers of Netanyahu."

His words were greeted with cheers from many in the crowd of 10,000. Makadmeh said attacks will continue until "Netanyahu curses the day his mother bore him."

Arafat ordered Makadmeh released three weeks ago after he was held a year without charges.

The move was an apparent gesture to Hamas, to encourage its participation in a dialogue with the Palestinian Authority, and as a sign to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that suppressing Hamas could not continue if Israel took actions that embarrassed him.

PA Minister of Communication Imad Falouji, who once was a senior Hamas activist, attended the Khan Yunis rally and said afterwards that he regretted the attack "but Israel pushed us to this."

Sheikh Ahmed Baher, a leading Hamas preacher, called on the PA to "to open camps to train every Palestinian in the use of guns" and to end all talks with Israel.

The rally was attended by Abdullah Shami, an Islamic Jihad spokesman who has not been seen publicly since his release from jail six months after the Beit Lid suicide bombing in January 1995. Upon his release he pledged to look for peaceful ways to work with the PA.

On Friday he said, "We should

throw this Oslo agreement which disunites us into the garbage can of history. Palestine - Jaffa, Haifa, Ramle - is calling us to liberate it with all means."

Several Fatah supporters also attended the rally. Nahed Rayess of the legislative council, called for unity to "confront the policy of taking Jerusalem from us."



Ibrahim Makadmeh (Reuters)

E l l l l Wohlgeleitert adds:

At Har Homa all was quiet yesterday, after some 200 Palestinians demonstrated there on Friday. Three policemen were injured by thrown rocks; one of them was

seen bleeding after being hit in the head. Two IDF soldiers were also lightly injured.

Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said the demonstrators tried to march down to the construction site from the nearby village of Umm Tuba, but police chased them back up the hill.

Protestors also burned tires and chanted "Netanyahu, you have no business here." "Now it is a war of the people, not of diplomacy," said stone-thrower Khalil Kawasmeh, 17. "We want to teach Bibi a lesson, that when he challenges an entire nation, he cannot win."

There were 1,200 extra police reinforcements on duty on Friday, both at Har Homa and on the Temple Mount. Ben-Ruby said there were no disturbances on the Temple Mount over the weekend.

Seven youths were arrested yesterday afternoon during disturbances in Nazareth that followed a march and rally organized by the Islamic Movement.

Following the rally, youths started to throw stones and bottles at policemen and at a police car. The police car's windows were broken, and several other cars were also damaged.



Palestinian Police attempt to stop protesters throwing stones at IDF soldiers during clashes in Hebron yesterday. (Reuters)

HEBRON

Continued from Page 1

them when they tried to engage Israeli troops more closely. The clashes were some 100 meters from Shuhada Street, near where dozens of settlers live.

Behind the rioters were thousands of chanting supporters, shouting "down with peace, up with Hamas" and "Allah is Great." Twice they

burned the Israeli flag to excited chanting before charging down the road toward Israeli positions.

Preventive Security Chief Jibril Rajoub, now stationed in Hebron, rushed down from Jerusalem on Friday. Yesterday he appeared periodically on Shalala Street during the rioting and then left without intervening.

Rajoub was in contact with the IDF, and in H2, Israeli officers speaking Arabic into field tele-

phones could be heard conversing with Palestinian officers.

"We have the determination and the ability to control the situation but the reason is very great because of Netanyahu's crazy policy," Rajoub told reporters.

Regarding the settlers' complaints about the IDF response, the IDF Spokesman said that on Friday the army sent additional forces to Hebron and that the army had stressed to the Palestinians that they

are responsible for maintaining the peace under their jurisdiction. The IDF, said the spokesman, will continue to safeguard the Jewish community in Hebron.

In an unrelated incident on Friday night, a busload of children from the Jordan Valley settlement of Na'ama were hit with stones in Oudja. According to Jordan Valley settlement spokeswoman Tami Atiya, there were no injuries.

US vetoes second UN Har Homa resolution

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - For the second time in two weeks, the US on Friday cast a veto in the UN Security Council to block a resolution that would have called on Israel to stop construction on Jerusalem's Har Homa, though it cautioned that its veto did not indicate American support for the project.

The 15-member council also issued a statement expressing its "revulsion" at the suicide bombing at Tel Aviv's Apropo cafe.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan condemned the Tel Aviv bombing. In a statement, Annan also appealed to the parties "not to allow odi-

ous acts of this nature to derail the peace process."

Friday's failed resolution was considered milder than its predecessor, which the US vetoed on March 7. Unlike the first resolution, Friday's resolution did not refer to the Har Homa project as "illegal." Instead, it called for Israel to "immediately cease construction of the Jebel Abu Ghneim settlement in East Jerusalem as well as all other Israeli settlement activities in the occupied territories."

The vote was 13-1, with the US voting against. Costa Rica abstained. The resolution had been sponsored by Egypt.

The US cautioned that its veto should not be

misunderstood. "No one should interpret the opposition of my government to this resolution as an expression of support for the construction now going on at Har Homa-Jebel Abu Ghneim. It is not," US Ambassador Bill Richardson said Friday.

Richardson repeated that the UN is not the appropriate forum to debate the peace process, adding that "such interference can only harden the positions of both sides."

After the first US veto, the General Assembly on March 13 overwhelmingly passed a resolution condemning the Har Homa project. Assembly votes, however, are not binding.

WEATHER

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Haifa 11-17 | Tiberias 11-19 |
| Afula 10-16 | Samaria 6-10 |
| Tel Aviv 12-17 | Jerusalem 9-10 |
| Beersheba 10-16 | Dead Sea 14-22 |
| Eilat 14-23 | |

Forecast: Scattered showers in the northern and central regions.

AROUND THE WORLD

| | LOW | F | WIND | PRECIP. |
|--------------|-----|----|------|---------|
| Amsterdam | 02 | 37 | 10 | 0 |
| Buenos Aires | 19 | 88 | 28 | 82 |
| Chicago | 01 | 34 | 22 | 72 |
| Copenhagen | 04 | 44 | 22 | 68 |
| Frankfurt | 02 | 37 | 12 | 54 |
| Geneva | 02 | 37 | 10 | 80 |
| Hong Kong | 18 | 84 | 19 | 88 |
| Jakarta | 11 | 82 | 24 | 76 |
| London | 06 | 43 | 13 | 86 |
| Los Angeles | 05 | 41 | 15 | 84 |
| Madrid | 08 | 46 | 25 | 77 |
| Moscow | 01 | 30 | 10 | 80 |
| New York | 02 | 36 | 10 | 80 |
| Paris | 02 | 37 | 12 | 80 |
| Rome | 05 | 41 | 15 | 84 |
| Stockholm | 16 | 61 | 24 | 76 |
| Sydney | 02 | 48 | 18 | 80 |
| Tokyo | 02 | 36 | 13 | 86 |
| Washington | 02 | 36 | 13 | 86 |
| Zurich | 02 | 36 | 13 | 86 |

Winning cards

The winning cards in Friday's Mifal Hapaysis daily Chance drawing were the king of spades, the ace of hearts, the queen of diamonds and the 10 of clubs.

Peres, Barak fail to narrow gap over unity gov't

By SARAH HONG

Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres and would-be party leader Ehud Barak conferred on Friday over the national unity government controversy, which has thrown Labor into turmoil. The two, who are on opposite sides of the issue, failed to convince each other nor to narrow the gap between them, though they may soon meet again. This intention to keep talking is seen in Labor as the one auspicious outcome of the talks.

The two met in a Tel Aviv restaurant along with Labor activist Giora Eini, who for many years was the behind the scenes go-between and conciliator in Peres's feuds with the late Yitzhak Rabin.

Though no formal invitation to join the government has come from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Peres enthusiastically supports Labor's participation in a unity government, while Barak hotly opposes it.

Peres argues that Labor's entry into a broad coalition is necessary in order to protect the peace process. Most Labor insiders agree, however, that Peres must lead Labor into a unity coalition soon in order to enter it as the leading Labor representative and thus cement his leadership before Barak replaces him as party chairman in June.

Because it is in Peres's interest to join the government, it is equally in Barak's interest not to do so. Barak confirmed last night that he spoke with Peres, but would not comment on what was said. The meeting came after Peres and Barak clashed vociferously last Thursday at the Labor central committee, when Peres pushed for national unity and Barak said the only action Labor should take regarding Netanyahu is to bring him down.

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BOMBING

Continued from Page 1

throughout the downtown area, blew out windows of nearby buildings and vehicles. Furniture and people were hurled meters from the scene, some into the middle of Sderot Ben-Gurion.

Apropo shift manager Ro'i described what he saw seconds before the bomb exploded opposite him.

"I saw a strange man, scruffily dressed, sit down at a table outside on the terrace," he said weeping. "The waitress was just about to go outside when there was a terrific boom. Everything was hurled in all directions. I tried to help a woman whose leg had been crushed to smithereens. Everyone was screaming."

Minutes later some 20 Magen-David Adom ambulances arrived at the scene to evacuate the wounded to the city's Ichilov and Wolfson hospitals and to Tel Hashomer's Sheba and Petah Tikva's Beilinson-Rabin Campus hospitals. Massive forces of police, headed by the city's police chief, Cmdr. Shlomo Aharonishky, and backed up by Civil Guard volunteers, border policemen, and other forces, arrived and sealed off the area.

Bomb squad officers, helped by explosive-sniffing dogs, scoured the surrounding areas for possible additional bombs, but none was found. The Hevra Kadisha's identification squad also arrived to search for body parts and to help identify the victims.

"We have had warnings of possible attacks recently, but we were not notified of specific places," police Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz said at the scene. He denied that increased forces in the Har Homa area and other problematic districts in the territories may have facilitated the terrorist's entry to Tel Aviv.

"We don't want to put the public in a state of panic or to force people to stay home," he added. "There are constant warnings of attacks. Now we have to guard the various events during Purim and maybe increase forces even afterwards."

Former ambassador to the UN Gad Ya'acobi was sitting inside the packed restaurant at the time of the blast.

"I was only lightly injured," he said. "I saw dozens of people

strewn on the floor. Doors were wrenched from their hinges from the impact of the blast."

Children, some in their Purim costumes - including the baby Shani - were lightly wounded.

"Even before the attack we were on full alert in readiness for possible attacks before and during Purim," said Aharonishky. "But we cannot hermetically seal off all sites, public places, or restaurants." Police arrested 19 Palestinians illegally in Israel during raids Friday night and yesterday.

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, after consultation with security authorities, announced yesterday that Purim celebrations would continue in the city, and reiterated that Tel Aviv would not surrender to terror.

"Anyone who thinks this nation can be vanquished by terrorist bombs doesn't know it. The nation is much stronger than they imagine and they won't defeat it, and we will know what steps to take to make this clear."

Batsheva Tsor adds:

Egypt President Hosni Mubarak and Arafat called President Ezer Weizman following the bombing to express their condolences to the families of those killed and to send wishes of recovery to the wounded. Weizman received a similar call from US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

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